

REMARKS

A Petition and fee for a one-month extension of time are enclosed.

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action dated May 9, 2007. In the present application claims 1-28 were pending. In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 16-28 were allowable and that claims 8, 12, 14 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The remaining claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13 were rejected.

Applicants have canceled without prejudice claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13. Claims 8, 12, 14, and 15 have been amended such that they are now in independent form and incorporate all the limitations of any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the present amendments be accepted permitting the application to proceed to allowance.

For purposes of calculating the fee, the amended claims now number seventeen (17) in total and include only four (4) independent claims (claims 8, 12, 14, 16). The application as originally filed included thirty-six claims (36), four of which were independent (See the Patent Application Transmittal Letter, dated February 10, 2004). Therefore, it is believed that no fee is due with this response. However, if such a fee is necessary, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50/1039.

Respectfully submitted,

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